

Application No. 09/483,521
Response to Final Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) The An image sensing apparatus for a microscope according to claim 10, comprising:

an image sensing unit for sensing an observation image obtained by a microscope and obtaining the observation image;

5 a microscopy technique determination unit for detecting a microscopy technique in the microscope;

a luminance distribution determination unit for calculating a luminance distribution of the observation image based on the microscopy technique detected by said microscopy technique

10 determination unit, and determining from the luminance

distribution a region where tone is to be corrected in the observation image; and

a tone adjustment unit for correcting tone in accordance with a tone correction amount arbitrarily set for the region of the observation image determined by said luminance distribution determination unit;

wherein when a fluorescent observation state is detected by the microscopy determination unit: [,]

the luminance distribution determination unit

20 identifies a low-luminance range representing a background and an

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intermediate-luminance range representing a fluorescent specimen part, from the luminance distribution of the observation image, and determines a boundary between the low-luminance range and the intermediate-luminance range, and

25 the tone adjustment unit performs an arbitrarily set tone correction on the fluorescent specimen part.

12. (Currently Amended) The An image sensing apparatus for a microscope according to claim 10, comprising:

an image sensing unit for sensing an observation image obtained by a microscope and obtaining the observation image;

5 a microscopy technique determination unit for detecting a microscopy technique in the microscope;

a luminance distribution determination unit for calculating a luminance distribution of the observation image based on the microscopy technique detected by said microscopy technique
10 determination unit, and determining from the luminance distribution a region where tone is to be corrected in the observation image; and

a tone adjustment unit for correcting tone in accordance with a tone correction amount arbitrarily set for the region of
15 the observation image determined by said luminance distribution determination unit;

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wherein when a transmission bright-field observation state is detected by the microscopy technique determination unit: [[,]

the luminance distribution determination unit

20 identifies a high-luminance range representing a background and at least one of a low-luminance range and an intermediate-luminance range representing a bright-field specimen part from the luminance distribution of the observation image, and determines a boundary between the high-luminance range and the at 25 least one of the low-luminance range and the intermediate-luminance range, and

the tone adjustment unit performs an arbitrarily set tone correction on the bright-field specimen part.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the tone adjustment unit performs a tone-expanding correction on the fluorescent specimen part.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the tone adjustment unit performs a tone-expanding correction on the bright-field specimen part.

Claims 15 and 16 (Canceled).